

Merchantville, NJ February 10, 2020

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held at 7:30 PM, Monday, February 10, 2020. Mayor Ted Brennan presided. Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer were observed. Announcement was made that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the "Open Public Meetings Act".

ROLL CALL:

Council Present: Sean Fitzgerald, Andrew McLoone, Anthony Perno, Maria Nina Scarpa, Dan Sperrazza, Raymond Woods, and Edward Brennan. Attorney Timothy Higgins, CFO Denise Moules and Clerk Denise Brouse were present.

PUBLIC:

- Presentation of Earth Fair 2020 – Cindy Hertneck 15 Clifton Avenue. Earth Day event planned for, May 9, 11-4, activities will include a parade along with other activities in the Center of town, please attend.
- Presentation on Complete Street Policy Update – Sonia/Patrick. Complete street policy has been updated. Tri-State transportation and management as well as Sustainable NJ points. The policy looks at your town, specifically traffic calming and ADA compliance. Stormwater has been added to the policy as Green Streets. Complete streets design guide. Borough can create advisory body to determine focus. Policy can be adopted to town needs. What can be done to make the town safe for everyone? Additional points for grant funding. Dan and Mara to look at potential policy explore options.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the motion of Mr. Sperrazza and second of Mr. Fitzgerald council approves minutes - Council 9/9/20

On the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald and second of Mr. Sperrazza council approves minutes - Caucus 10/28/20

On the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald and second of Mr. Sperrazza council approves minutes - Council 11/11/20

On the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald and second of Mr. McLoone council approves minutes - Caucus 11/25/20

ENGINEER REPORT attached

CORRESPONDENCE - Census and NJ DOT Funding

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Woods – Incredible Edible – gave plans, small project to consider. Sustainable NJ efforts. Ordinance introduced for Green Team tonight.

Ms. Scarpa – Shade Tree Commission overview – Cindy Hertneck met with Commission and is working with Sustainable NJ efforts. Thanks for good job on forestry grant. Mayor appreciates the hard work. Court report was provided.

Mr. Fitzgerald – Fire 18 calls drills scheduled. OEM – 2/20 meeting. FEMA grant money. 2/19 Public events. 4/4 Egg hunt. Events/Volunteer Meeting. Volunteer appreciation brunch? In spring? BOE attended meeting. Growth in enrollment discussion. MBPA meeting parking Borough consider signage for parking, looking for direction. Master plan was discussed at meeting identified upcoming events. Department of Health Corona virus report. No reported cases in NJ to date.

Mr. Sperrazza – Public Works new brine resolution. Cleaning up gutters on several streets. Working on last property along Glenwood. New plans for Public Works for vehicles, decorations down, and trimming is beginning.

Mr. McLoone – Police answered 1,200 calls, 30 traffic, 48 arrests. SAVE 32 referrals. Police cars parked out front. Down two vehicles due to squirrel damage. 2 years \$3,000 in damage, tree is the issue at back lot. \$3,000 to remove the tree.

Mr. Perno – Bills – total property vacancy/abandoned 42, 4 commercial, 3 multifamily, 37 single, 8 being rehabbed, 2 for sale. Push for change of code to semi-annual registration. Matters of contract.

CLERK'S REPORT

Census

Egg Hunt April 4th

Public Events meeting February 19th

Borough Hall Closed Monday for Presidents Day

RFP to go out for Lawn cutting and snow removal on February 20th

Computers and server is ordered and being installed

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

On the motion of Mr. Sperrazza and second of Ms. Scarpa, Council approved the following:

- APPROVAL Fireman John Niessner
- APPROVAL Fireman Stephen Lopez

RESOLUTIONS to be read by consent agenda: On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. Fitzgerald, Council approved the following resolutions:

R20-30

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE NEW JERSEY MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and the Borough of Merchantville desire to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission provides an Online Access Program to be used by the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor is authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest to the memorandum of understanding, known as exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to this Resolution adopted February 10, 2020, the State of New Jersey has authorized the execution of this MOU

R20-31

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY ADDING 2020 TAX EXEMPTIONS

WHEREAS, the Merchantville Tax Collector has called to Council's attention additions to the 2020 Tax Duplicate and has requested Council to approve the same:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville that the following addition be and are hereby approved:

ADDITION

William Potts
Block 57, Lot 26

19 W Chestnut Ave

Allow Totally Disabled Veteran
(Effective 12/13/19)

ORDINANCE for introduction on first reading. This ordinance will be considered for adoption at the public hearing to be held during the March 9th council meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. Sperrazza, council introduced the following Ordinance:

20-01
CALENDAR YEAR 2020
MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION LIMITS
AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville in the County of Camden finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2020 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough Council hereby determines that a 1.0% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$39,383.20 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville, in the County of Camden, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2020 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Merchantville shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$137,841.21, and that the CY 2020 municipal budget for the Borough of Merchantville be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be file with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

On the motion of Mr. Sperrazza and second of Mr. Fitzgerald, council introduced the following Ordinance:

20-02

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 94, ZONING, IN THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, and State of New Jersey that Chapter 94, Zoning, is hereby amended in the Code of the Borough of Merchantville, as follows:

ARTICLE I. ARTICLE IV SECTION 94-18 Zoning Map.

The boundaries of said use districts shall be as shown upon the map attached to and made a part of this Chapter, entitled the "Zoning Map, Borough of Merchantville" on file in the office of the Borough Clerk. The map and all notations, references and other information shown thereon shall be as much a part of this Chapter as if the matter and information shown by said map were all fully described herein.

ARTICLE II.

All Ordinances contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are inconsistent herewith.

ARTICLE III.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication according to law.

On the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald and second of Ms. Scarpa, council introduced the following Ordinance:

20-03

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ESTABLISHING THE GREEN TEAM IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Committee for a Green Future of the New Jersey League of Municipalities has promulgated a municipal certification program and organization called Sustainable Jersey, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Sustainable Jersey is to enlist municipalities in a concerted state-wide effort to improve the environment and promote sustainability and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville has worked with the Green Team since 2017 on sustainability initiatives, now formally recognizes and establishes the Green Team and its link to our Sustainable Jersey certification

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Borough Council believe it to be in the best interests of the Borough of Merchantville to establish a Green Team in and for the Borough of Merchantville.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of Merchantville that Green Team be and hereby is established in and for the Borough of Merchantville; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that:

- 1) The Green Team will continue to be active in the community and shall advance sustainable practices and action included in the Sustainable Jersey municipal certification program;
- 2) The Green team shall be composed of individuals who have demonstrated an interest in advancing the efforts of the Borough of Merchantville to pursue certification through the Sustainable Jersey municipal certification program;

3) The role of the Green Team shall be to coordinate the sustainability activities of the community;

4) The membership of the Green Team, as appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of Borough Council, will include at least one representative from Merchantville Borough Council, one representative from Incredible Edible Merchantville, one representative from the Merchantville Garden Club, and one representative from Merchantville Shade Tree Commission.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all Ordinances contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent that they are inconsistent herewith, and that this Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication according to law.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. Fitzgerald council approved the bills list:

R20-32 RESOLUTION

RESOLVED that the Report of the Department of Accounts and Auditing be accepted and spread upon the minutes and the Treasurer be is hereby authorized to pay bill approved therein.

CURRENT FUND		REVENUE	BUDGET
CHECKS CURRENT FUND	2019 BUDGET	\$ -	\$ 17,428.37
	2020 BUDGET	\$ 13,228.56	\$ 77,799.39
	GRANTS		\$ 349.80
	PFRS		
	PERS		
	DEBT SERVICE		\$ 22,712.50
	BOARD OF EDUCATION*		\$ 1,476,294.50
	MEDICAL DEDUCTIBLE		
	CAMDEN COUNTY		\$ 547,978.22
WIRE TRANSFERS			\$
PAYROLL	1/17/20-1/31/20		\$ 150,133.09
			\$
WIRES / MANUAL CHECKS			\$ 29,563.20
		\$	\$
TOTAL CURRENT		13,228.56	2,322,259.07

SEWER UTILITY

CHECKS SEWER FUND	2020 BUDGET	\$ 2,700.00
	2019 BUDGET	\$ -
	DEBT SERVICE	
WIRE TRANSFERS		
PAYROLL	1/17/20-1/31/20	\$2,956.13
WIRE NJEIT LOAN		
WIRES /MANUAL CHECKS		

		\$	-	\$
	TOTAL SEWER			5,656.13
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND				
	CHECK CAPITAL FUND		\$	662.67
	MANUAL CHECK			
	WIRE TRANSFERS			
	PAYROLL	1/17/20-1/31/20		
		\$	-	\$
	TOTAL CAPITAL			662.67
TRUST FUND				
	CHECK TRUST OTHER			\$
	FUND			12,187.50
			\$	
	REDEVELOPER TRUST		1,664.50	
	WIRE TRANSFERS			
	PAYROLL	1/17/20-1/31/20		\$6,756.13
	WIRES / MANUAL CHECKS			3,900.00
		\$	-	\$
	TOTAL TRUST			20,608.13
SEWER CAPITAL FUND				
	CHECK SEWER CAPITAL			
	MANUAL CHECKS			
	WIRE TRANSFERS			
	PAYROLL			
	TOTAL SEWER CAPITAL	\$	-	\$
				-
ANIMAL TRUST FUND				
			\$	
	ANIMAL TRUST CHECK		1,004.00	
		\$	-	\$
	TOTAL ANIMAL TRUST			1,004.00
TOTAL BILL LIST & MANUAL CHECKS/WIRE				
		\$		\$
		13,228.56		2,350,190.00
	GRAND			
	TOTAL	\$		2,363,418.56

ANNOUNCEMENTS:**PRIVATE SESSION –**

On the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald and second of Mr. Sperrazza, Council approved the following resolution to go into private session on Matters of Contract Negotiation:

R20-33
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE,
COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AUTHORIZING A PRIVATE SESSION OF COUNCIL

_Sean Fitzgerald offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

Matters of Contract

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter shall be made public.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Seconded by **Daniel Sperrazza** and adopted on roll call by the following vote:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Fitzgerald	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. McLoone	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Perno	(x)	()	()	()
Ms. Scarpa	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Sperrazza	(x)	()	()	()
Mr. Woods	(x)	()	()	()

Dated: **February 10, 2020**

ADJOURNMENT: On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. Sperrazza the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

**ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROVIDED
OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING
AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Denise Brouse, Borough Clerk